THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): The Social Security Schemes like Workmen's Compensation, Employees Provident Fund, Pension, Deposit-Linked Insurance Schemes etc. do not make any discrimination between organised and unorganised sectors. The workers employed in operations of growing of cardiamom, cinchona, coffee, rubber or tea, tapping of palm trees, horticulture, forestry, bee-keeping farming by tractors, rearing of livestock, spraying and dusting of insecticides or pesticides in agricultural operations, mechanised harvesting and threshing etc. are covered for compensation benefits as provided under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923. The Workers employed in many unorganised sectors like beedi, brick, kattha, Aggarbatti, building construction works, coir, agricultural farms, cattle breeding, poultry fanning, chutney industries etc. are eligible for PF, Pension and deposit-linked insurance benefits as provided under the EPF & MP Act, 1952. Benefit of Gratuity under the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972 is available to the employees of the factories, plantations and other establishments employing 10 or more persons. Health is a state subject. According, health care facilities are being provided to persons including agricultural and unorganised workers through dispensaries/hospitals of the State Governments. The Central Government has set up 12 hospitals and 276 dispensaries at different places in the country for providing basic health care and family welfare services to beedi, mine and cine workers.

Industrial Relation Bill

4939. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to bring about a new Industrial Relation Bill; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) Amendments to the Industrial disputes Act, 1947 are made keeping in view the requirements of the Social & Industrial partners.